PATENT COOPERATION TREATY IN THE UNITED STATES ELECTED OFFICE (EO/US)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as indicated on the following sheets.

Amendments to the Specification are described on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 3 of this paper.

Amendments to the Drawing are described on page 7 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

An Abstract of the Disclosure is attached following page 8 of this paper.